



SC Department of Employment and Workforce

NEWS RELEASE

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South Carolina's Employment Situation July 2012

Slight Increase in Unemployment Rate

The state's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate increased to 9.6 percent in July from 9.4 percent in June. The rise in the rate was fueled by an increasing number of unemployed people (+4,040) and a decrease in people who were employed (-11,231).

As a result, the overall labor force fell slightly by 7,191 people to 2,143,275. This pattern is similar to the trend in 2011 of falling employment and rising unemployment during the middle of the year. The national unemployment rate increased slightly from 8.2 percent in June to 8.3 percent in July.

Historically, employment decreases during the summer months due to the seasonal ebb and flow of employment in the educational sector. The non-farm payroll jobs (not seasonally adjusted) fell by 22,700 from June to July 2012, with the majority of the decrease in Government (-15,300). Other sectors declining this month include Trade, Transportation, and Utilities (-3,000, mostly in Retail Trade), Professional and Business Services (-1,700), and Manufacturing (-1,600). Employment in the Construction industry moved slightly downward (-800) after four consecutive monthly increases. Education and Health Services jobs declined by 600 as private educational schools and ambulatory health care services declined. The Information sector experienced the only increase (+200).

Since July 2011, non-farm employment saw an overall increase of 11,300 jobs. Professional and Business Services reported a gain over the year (+5,500), mostly in temporary Employment Services. The Manufacturing sector also grew 4,600 from July 2011 to July 2012. Sectors that showed a decline in employment during the past year include Construction (-2,100), Leisure and Hospitality (-1,000) and Financial Activities (-600).

Online job ads in South Carolina, as reported by the Conference Board Help Wanted OnLine data series, showed a decrease of about 2,200 ads from June to July. The number of jobseekers per opening increased slightly from 3.5 to 3.7 this past month. Online ads across the United States saw a decrease of 153,600 in the last month. Compared to a year ago, online ads in South Carolina were approximately 7,100 higher in July 2012.

The Trident Workforce Area (Berkeley, Charleston, and Dorchester counties) had the most ads (13,598), with the Midlands Workforce Area (Fairfield, Lexington, and Richland counties) coming in next (12,776). Of all online ads, Healthcare Practitioners and Technical Occupations had the highest number of ads in the state (9,909).

“The state’s unemployment rate has once again mirrored the movements of the national rate. A decline in payroll employment is typical for this time of year, as educational institutions are on break for the summer,” said Abraham J. Turner, executive director of the SC Department of Employment and Workforce. “However, DEW remains steadfast and focused on its efforts to put South Carolinians back to work.”

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NONFARM EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY

Statewide

July 2012

Jobs by Industry	July 2012	June 2012	July 2011	June 2012 to July 2012		July 2011 to July 2012	
				# Change	% Change	# Change	% Change
Total Nonfarm Employment	1,852,000	1,874,700	1,840,700	-22,700	-1.21%	11,300	0.61%
Natural Resources and Mining	3,700	3,800	3,900	-100	-2.63%	-200	-5.13%
Construction	75,800	76,600	77,900	-800	-1.04%	-2,100	-2.70%
Manufacturing	222,200	223,800	217,600	-1,600	-0.71%	4,600	2.11%
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	355,400	358,400	353,600	-3,000	-0.84%	1,800	0.51%
Information	27,100	26,900	25,800	200	0.74%	1,300	5.04%
Financial Activities	96,300	96,400	96,900	-100	-0.10%	-600	-0.62%
Professional and Business Services	235,900	237,600	230,400	-1,700	-0.72%	5,500	2.39%
Education and Health Services	217,700	218,100	216,000	-400	-0.18%	1,700	0.79%
Leisure and Hospitality	223,100	223,100	224,100	0	0.00%	-1,000	-0.45%
Government	325,100	340,400	325,500	-15,300	-4.49%	-400	-0.12%

Note: Not Seasonally Adjusted

NONFARM EMPLOYMENT

South Carolina & Metropolitan Areas (Not Seasonally Adjusted)

July 2012

INDUSTRY TITLE	July 2012	June 2012	July 2011	June 2012 to July 2012		July 2011 to July 2012	
				# Change	% Change	# Change	% Change
Statewide	1,852,000	1,874,700	1,840,700	-22,700	-1.21%	11,300	0.61%
Anderson MSA	57,500	58,900	58,400	-1,400	-2.38%	-900	-1.54%
Charleston/North Charleston MSA	302,100	303,500	297,200	-1,400	-0.46%	4,900	1.65%
Columbia MSA	352,300	354,200	342,800	-1,900	-0.54%	9,500	2.77%
Florence MSA	84,300	85,500	82,000	-1,200	-1.40%	2,300	2.80%
Greenville MSA	299,000	303,500	302,100	-4,500	-1.48%	-3,100	-1.03%
Myrtle Beach/Conway/N. Myrtle Beach MSA	121,800	121,300	125,100	500	0.41%	-3,300	-2.64%
Spartanburg MSA	119,200	120,300	112,800	-1,100	-0.91%	6,400	5.67%
Sumter MSA	36,500	37,000	36,600	-500	-1.35%	-100	-0.27%

Note: Employment estimates have been rounded to the nearest hundred. Sum of detail may not equal totals due to rounding or the exclusion of certain industries from publication. All data are subject to revision.

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
LOCAL AREA UNEMPLOYMENT STATISTICS BY COUNTY, MSA, AND STATE
(NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED)

AREA		July 2012				June 2012				July 2011			
		LABOR	EMPLOY-	UNEMPLOYMENT		LABOR	EMPLOY-	UNEMPLOYMENT		LABOR	EMPLOY-	UNEMPLOYMENT	
		FORCE	MENT	LEVEL	RATE (%)	FORCE	MENT	LEVEL	RATE (%)	FORCE	MENT	LEVEL	RATE (%)
Marion County	↓	12,122	9,992	2,130	17.6	12,275	10,075	2,200	17.9	12,466	10,047	2,419	19.4
Allendale County	—	3,348	2,782	566	16.9	3,393	2,821	572	16.9	3,440	2,796	644	18.7
Marlboro County	↓	11,449	9,583	1,866	16.3	11,772	9,699	2,073	17.6	11,711	9,715	1,996	17.0
Bamberg County	↑	6,320	5,304	1,016	16.1	6,329	5,362	967	15.3	6,478	5,346	1,132	17.5
Barnwell County	—	8,462	7,183	1,279	15.1	8,549	7,259	1,290	15.1	8,705	7,277	1,428	16.4
Union County	↑	11,450	9,744	1,706	14.9	11,547	9,841	1,706	14.8	11,609	9,687	1,922	16.6
Chester County	↓	14,480	12,357	2,123	14.7	14,702	12,530	2,172	14.8	14,782	12,403	2,379	16.1
Orangeburg County	↑	41,765	35,658	6,107	14.6	41,789	35,997	5,792	13.9	42,996	35,837	7,159	16.7
Clarendon County	↓	12,541	10,737	1,804	14.4	12,733	10,871	1,862	14.6	12,772	10,777	1,995	15.6
Dillon County	↓	13,258	11,411	1,847	13.9	13,511	11,532	1,979	14.6	13,536	11,457	2,079	15.4
McCormick County	↓	3,320	2,893	427	12.9	3,363	2,921	442	13.1	3,421	2,930	491	14.4
Chesterfield County	↓	18,867	16,473	2,394	12.7	19,302	16,705	2,597	13.5	19,118	16,536	2,582	13.5
Hampton County	↓	7,784	6,794	990	12.7	7,923	6,889	1,034	13.1	7,995	6,845	1,150	14.4
Lancaster County	↓	30,593	26,719	3,874	12.7	31,117	27,100	4,017	12.9	31,229	26,877	4,352	13.9
Lee County	↑	8,314	7,258	1,056	12.7	8,340	7,294	1,046	12.5	8,370	7,198	1,172	14.0
Cherokee County	↓	24,746	21,692	3,054	12.3	25,100	21,962	3,138	12.5	25,019	21,717	3,302	13.2
Calhoun County	↑	6,930	6,084	846	12.2	6,843	6,068	775	11.3	7,018	5,958	1,060	15.1
Colleton County	↑	17,323	15,214	2,109	12.2	17,531	15,402	2,129	12.1	17,691	15,300	2,391	13.5
Williamsburg County	↓	16,275	14,307	1,968	12.1	16,520	14,462	2,058	12.5	16,563	14,379	2,184	13.2
Fairfield County	↓	10,837	9,572	1,265	11.7	10,866	9,547	1,319	12.1	10,703	9,374	1,329	12.4
Darlington County	↓	31,595	27,924	3,671	11.6	31,835	27,998	3,837	12.1	31,466	27,362	4,104	13.0
Sumter County	↓	44,688	39,761	4,927	11.0	45,077	39,968	5,109	11.3	45,308	39,857	5,451	12.0
Abbeville County	↓	10,712	9,543	1,169	10.9	10,919	9,685	1,234	11.3	11,011	9,678	1,333	12.1
Greenwood County	↓	30,751	27,393	3,358	10.9	31,229	27,799	3,430	11.0	31,381	27,792	3,589	11.4
York County	↓	109,550	97,761	11,789	10.8	111,598	99,265	12,333	11.1	111,040	97,349	13,691	12.3
Oconee County	↑	31,319	28,070	3,249	10.4	31,668	28,445	3,223	10.2	31,943	28,438	3,505	11.0
Laurens County	↑	30,500	27,411	3,089	10.1	30,621	27,611	3,010	9.8	31,430	27,797	3,633	11.6
Spartanburg County	↓	134,698	121,096	13,602	10.1	135,258	121,315	13,943	10.3	131,147	116,409	14,738	11.2
Florence County	↓	63,863	57,639	6,224	9.7	64,324	57,793	6,531	10.2	63,593	56,480	7,113	11.2
Anderson County	↓	82,034	74,186	7,848	9.6	83,271	75,168	8,103	9.7	84,282	75,642	8,640	10.3
Georgetown County	↓	30,053	27,236	2,817	9.4	30,505	27,507	2,998	9.8	30,822	27,617	3,205	10.4
Horry County	↓	134,495	121,800	12,695	9.4	133,689	120,292	13,397	10.0	139,668	125,607	14,061	10.1
Richland County	↓	184,807	167,524	17,283	9.4	185,185	167,089	18,096	9.8	182,641	164,050	18,591	10.2
Edgefield County	↓	11,049	10,019	1,030	9.3	11,013	9,981	1,032	9.4	11,197	10,204	993	8.9
Kershaw County	↓	30,029	27,258	2,771	9.2	30,023	27,188	2,835	9.4	29,695	26,693	3,002	10.1
Newberry County	↓	18,328	16,647	1,681	9.2	18,543	16,775	1,768	9.5	18,588	16,638	1,950	10.5
Jasper County	↓	10,487	9,542	945	9.0	10,650	9,679	971	9.1	10,787	9,668	1,119	10.4
Pickens County	↓	57,633	52,500	5,133	8.9	58,304	52,884	5,420	9.3	58,851	53,240	5,611	9.5
Beaufort County	↓	64,808	59,261	5,547	8.6	65,915	60,113	5,802	8.8	66,186	60,043	6,143	9.3
Berkeley County	↓	85,959	78,624	7,335	8.5	86,298	78,484	7,814	9.1	85,939	77,900	8,039	9.4
Aiken County	↓	74,356	68,144	6,212	8.4	74,480	67,884	6,596	8.9	76,023	69,399	6,624	8.7
Dorchester County	↓	69,894	64,287	5,607	8.0	69,948	64,172	5,776	8.3	69,566	63,695	5,871	8.4
Charleston County	↓	180,157	165,835	14,322	7.9	180,333	165,540	14,793	8.2	180,410	164,309	16,101	8.9
Greenville County	↓	222,961	205,284	17,677	7.9	225,184	206,785	18,399	8.2	227,475	208,179	19,296	8.5
Saluda County	↓	9,071	8,385	686	7.6	9,110	8,363	747	8.2	9,015	8,211	804	8.9
Lexington County	↓	134,434	124,666	9,768	7.3	134,668	124,342	10,326	7.7	133,218	122,081	11,137	8.4
Charleston MSA	↓	336,010	308,746	27,264	8.1	336,580	308,196	28,384	8.4	335,915	305,904	30,011	8.9
Columbia MSA	↓	376,109	343,489	32,620	8.7	376,697	342,597	34,100	9.1	372,289	336,366	35,923	9.6
Florence MSA	↓	95,458	85,563	9,895	10.4	96,159	85,791	10,368	10.8	95,059	83,842	11,217	11.8
Greenville MSA	↓	311,094	285,195	25,899	8.3	314,109	287,280	26,829	8.5	317,756	289,217	28,539	9.0
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED													
South Carolina	↑	2,143,275	1,936,801	206,474	9.6	2,150,466	1,948,032	202,434	9.4	2,159,084	1,932,551	226,533	10.5

Current month's estimates are preliminary.

Counties are sorted by current month's unemployment rate in descending order.

↑ Unemployment Rate Up
↓ Unemployment Rate Down
— Unemployment Rate =